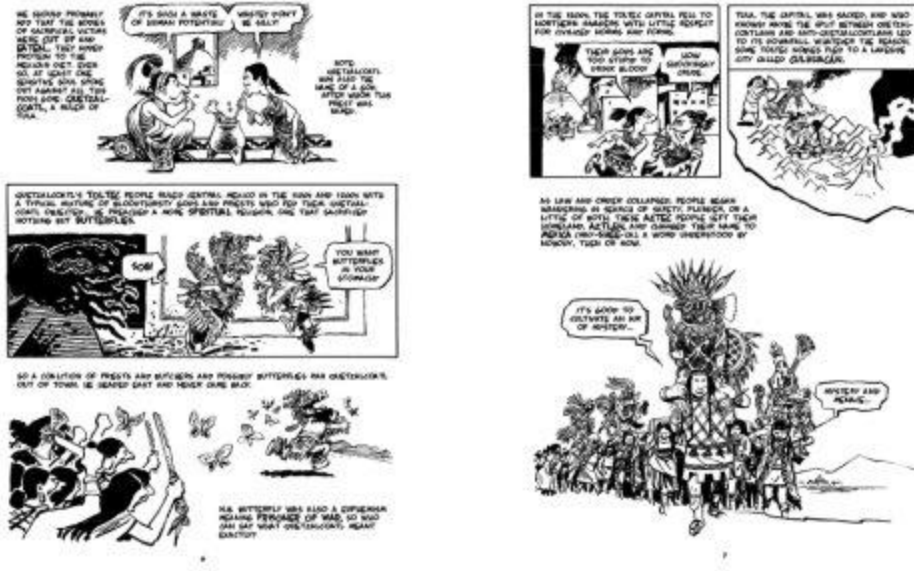


# The Cartoon History of the Modern World Part 1: From Columbus to the U.S. Constitution (Pt. 1) by Larry Gonick



## Best History Education Ever!

The Cartoon History of the Modern World is a wickedly funny take on modern history. It is essentially a complete and up-to-date course in college level Modern World History, but presented as a graphic novel. In an engaging and humorous graphic style, Larry Gonick covers the history, personalities and big topics that have shaped our universe over the past five centuries, including the Industrial Revolution, the American Revolution, the Russian Revolution, the evolution of political, social, economic, and scientific thought, Communism, Fascism, Nazism, the Cold War, Globalization—and much more.

Volume I of the Cartoon History of the Modern World picks up from Gonicks award winning Cartoon History of the Universe Series. That series began with the Big Bang and ended with Christopher Columbus sailing for the New World. This book starts off with peoples that Columbus discovered and ends with the U.S. Revolution.

## **Personal Review: The Cartoon History of the Modern World Part 1: From Columbus to the U.S. Constitution (Pt. 1) by Larry Gonick**

Having enjoyed the first three in the series, I had to see how Gonick would handle modern history. First, the cartoon framework, with its jokes and simplified (but not simplistic) explanations, helped me to stay engaged through the entire book. Second, actually seeing drawings of the kings and popes, scholars and artists helped me to remember who did what when. Finally, the sources that Gonick relies on seem to be pretty disparate in their viewpoints, and he relies on a number of cross-referenced academic fields, like macroeconomics, human consciousness, anthropology, and geography to help him explain national narratives. Unfortunately, Africa and Asia get short shrift in this edition, and the cartoons are getting denser as the series progresses. Overall, I'd say that if you like history outside of history class, then you should add this book to your collection.

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